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REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 to 8, 17, 19, 27, 28, 30 to 32, 38 to 40, 42 to 44, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54 and 56 to 71 are pending.

Claims 27, 28, 30 to 32, 38 to 40, 42, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56 to 61, 63, 65, 66 and 71 have been withdrawn from consideration.

1. The examiner indicates that the pending claims are drawn to various distinct inventors. They are:

Group I - claims 1, 2, 4 to 8, 17, 19, 43, 44, 61, 62, 64, 67 draw to a cell comprising a casing of titanium with an interior surface layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide and a titanium current collector having an outer layer consisting essentially of titanium oxide having a thickness of 135 nm to 240 nm;

Group II - claims 27, 28, 31, 32, 42, 50, 51, 59 and 60 drawn to a method of making a cell comprising an electrode comprising a titanium current collector that is oxidized to form an outer layer of titanium oxide;

Group III - claims 47 and 56 are drawn to a cell comprising a casing of titanium comprising an outer layer inside the casing and an electrode comprising a titanium current collector; and

Group IV - claims 38 to 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 63, 65, 66 and 68 to 71 are drawn to a method for making a cell comprising a titanium current collector that is oxidized and a casing comprising titanium comprising an interior surface layer of titanium oxide.

The applicants have amended claim 56 to bring it into conformity with the wording for independent claims 1, 43 and 67 of Group I. It is now believed that the restriction between

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claim Groups I and III no longer exists. The applicants acquiesce to the restriction of claim Groups II and IV.

2. Claim 30 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form as depending from a cancelled claim. The dependency of claim 30 has been amended.

Reconsideration of this objection is requested.

It is believed that claims 1, 2, 4 to 8, 17, 19, 43, 44, 47, 56, 61, 62, 64 and 67 are in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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